XXIV.—*Results of an Ornithological Journey through Colombia and Ecuador.* By Walter Goodfellow, F.Z.S.

(Plate VIII.)

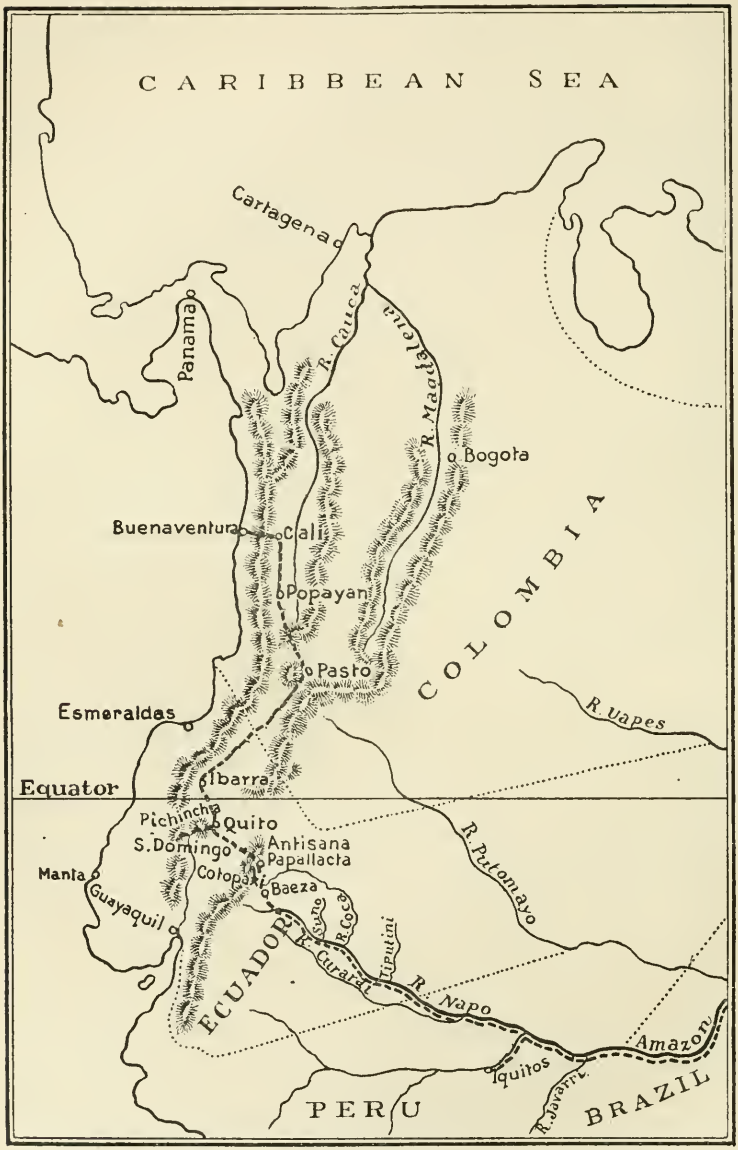
Mr. Claud Hamilton and I, having decided upon an ornithological trip to Ecuador, found ourselves at the port of Guayaquil on the 2nd of February, 1898. It had been our intention to enter South America by Buenaventura, on the west coast of Colombia, and to work the southern part of the beautiful Cauca Valley first, so as to reach Ecuador from the north. But happening to arrive in Panama the day after the Buenaventura boat had left, we decided that, rather than wait there for a fortnight, we would take that leaving for Guayaquil on the following day, and thence get another vessel up the coast back to Buenaventura. Unfortunately, we were not able to do much collecting in the neighbourhood of Guayaquil, for Mr. Hamilton met with a serious accident soon after our arrival, and was nearly blinded by the bursting of a bottle containing strong spirits of ammonia.

The return journey up the coast was very interesting, as our boat called at every port, and I went on shore whenever an opportunity was afforded. On the whole, however, birds seemed scarce in the immediate vicinity of most of the places; the only exceptions being at Puerto Viejo and Bahia de Caracas, where I noticed them in large numbers, and around Manta, where I saw many examples of *Pyrocephalus rubineus* and a few small flocks of *Psittacula cælestis*. The country at the back of the two former towns seemed to offer a most inviting field to the naturalist. Although I spent the best part of a day in the forests near Esmeraldas, I came across very few birds, but I shot a fine boa. At the end of some seven days we reached the miserable little port of Buenaventura, where we were accommodated at the Cable Station for two days, as the train only leaves for the interior twice a week. The place has an unenviable reputation for unhealthiness all up the west coast, and its character seemed well borne out by the appearance presented by the two or three Europeans living there, and even by the natives themselves, who are

mostly negroes from the West Indies, with a few Chinese. Its unhealthiness is due to the pestilential swamps which surround the town at the back. The railway, which has taken over 20 years to build, comes to an end at a spot in the woods 26 miles inland, called San José, at the foot of the outlying mountains, where a few sheds and miserable huts have sprung up. From this place the journey inland has to be continued on horses for the remaining three days to Cali. The road runs along the sides of beautiful narrow valleys, through gorges, and over forest-covered mountains. The scenery everywhere is indeed wonderful; but what makes this one of the most interesting journeys I have ever taken, is the surprising number of birds to be seen everywhere. Nowhere else in South America have I seen examples of so many species in so short a distance. When the summit of the Western Andes was reached, a marvellous view suddenly burst upon us. A broad, flat, fertile valley lay below us, backed up far away in the distance by the snow-peaks of the Central Andes, while the Cauca River, winding about like a long silver ribbon, lay before us. Thousands of feet below nestled the picturesque town of Cali, with its even rows of red-tiled roofs shining in the sun. The road down is steep, winding, and wearisome, and the distance very deceptive. The eastern side of the mountains is remarkably burnt up and barren, compared with the damp, luxuriant forests which clothe the western slopes to the summit. About 2000 feet above Cali we noticed hundreds of Swallow-tailed Kites (*Elanoides furcatus*) circling about in the air, and very pretty they looked as they flew. We stopped only a few days in Cali, and were occupied during that time in finding horses and arranging for our journey south to Popayán.

May is the best month for travelling in this part of Colombia; we found the beginning of April too early, as the roads, at all times bad, were then in most parts all but impassable, while the rivers were swollen and dangerous to cross. So, instead of taking five days for the journey to Popayán, we took nearly ten. The whole country between Cali and Popayán is given up to ranching, and that which is not grazing-land is under

Fig. 29.



Part of Colombia and Ecuador, showing Mr. Goodfellow's route.

cultivation where the mountainous nature of the country admits of it. Consequently, with one or two exceptions, we saw but few birds. These exceptions were *Crotophaga ani, Milvulus tyrannus,* and *Tyrannus melancholicus,* which abound all through the Cauca Valley. After the first day the road winds entirely through the mountains, and consists of a series of arduous ascents and descents into small valleys.

Popayán is a sleepy, clean old town, without any trade, and in Colombia is considered quite an aristocratic residence. There are certainly many old and wealthy families living in this isolated place, all of which possess large, if somewhat neglected, "haciendas" up in the Central Cordillera. The town itself lies at the foot of the central range, and is backed by the very active volcano of Puracé, altitude 17,000 feet, which we ascended. For many miles to the west stretches a level valley to the clearly-outlined Western Andes, and nowhere else did we see the different parallel ranges so distinctly defined. The climate is, perhaps, as perfect as a climate can be, neither too hot nor too cold, but cooler than one would expect for the position and altitude, which is only 5800 feet. The vegetation, moreover, is not at all tropical-looking; indeed, the fields, surrounded by well-kpet hedges, reminded us of home. We spent nearly two months there and in the neighbouring mountains, and made a fair collection of birds, but we were disappointed to find Humming-birds extremely scarce. We were told that September was the best month for them, when many kinds of trees are in bloom. Unfortunately none of the residents in the town were able to indicate the best collecting-grounds in the neighbourhood; thus much time was wasted in exploring profitless places, and it was not until we were just leaving and had made all arrangements for our journey south to Pasto, that we discovered the exact localities of which we had been in search. I think, however, it would scarcely repay any collector to go to these parts, for, besides the expense, the travelling is most difficult. Even more difficult is the country between Popayán and Pasto, which is an eight days' ride, the whole intervening country being one vast jumble of mountains.

It is impossible to imagine anything finer in the way of mountain-scenery, or greater variety, and we saw nothing like it anywhere else—it will for ever be impressed on my memory. There are three routes available between the two towns; we chose the one by the Patia valley. It is the shortest, but the least frequented and the most dangerous. This remarkably situated valley is very little known, and, being so cut off from communication, has never, I believe, been properly explored. I saw many birds and butterflies there which I observed in no other part of the country. The climate is hot and exceedingly unhealthy for most of the year, and the inhabitants (all negroes) have an evil reputation and seem to live mostly by robbery, so that every man's hand is against them. On account of a breakdown in our transport, we were forced to spend a few days there, until we could get more beasts, and during that time we shot as many birds as we could, among them being two fine kinds of Ibis of the genus *Theristicus*. Two fairly important towns are passed on the way to Pasto, namely, Mercaderes and La Union; the inhabitants of the latter picturesque little place being solely engaged in making "Panama" hats, probably the best supplied by Colombia.

The situation of Pasto is very striking, and it requires no imagination to see that it is built inside what was once the crater of a volcano, and that Galera, which now rises above the town on the S.W., is but a newer vent for the escape of steam. The town is surrounded on all sides except the west by a continuous line of crags, which on the east are absolutely perpendicular, but the western side was evidently blown out many ages ago. The altitude of the town is 8600 feet, and, in spite of its sheltered situation, the climate is cold and miserable, while the houses are comfortless in more ways than one. Pasto is always seething with rebellion, and most of the periodical revolutions of both Colombia and Ecuador are hatched here. The men are mostly muleteers by trade, but they are always to be hired as fighting men in any cause, or on either side of a revolution. At such times they march forth accompanied by an equally

large force of women, who are provided with sacks for the loot, and their very name strikes terror into the heart of an Ecuadorian. They are a fine, good-looking race, but the word "Pastuso" is a term of insult in Colombia, and signifies everything that is stupid and contemptible, for nothing good can come out of Pasto. We stayed here but ten days, and experienced much difficulty in getting mules for the long distance to Quito. We found this stage of our journey still more trying and arduous than that through the country already traversed, for we were continuously at very high altitudes and often exposed to snowstorms, our only dip into warmer regions being at the hot valley of the Chota, where we found the country all rock and sand, and everything burnt up. In this barren place we lost two of our horses from exhaustion, and were delayed two days at Ibarra before finding others. Fortunately, on this portion of our route, we generally managed to stop for the night in towns or villages, as the road passes through Túquerres, Ipiales, Tulcán (the frontier town), Ibarra, Otavalo, and other less important localities; but in most of them it is extremely difficult to get anything to eat, and at many places impossible. When we left Pasto we were not able to procure quite as many mules as we needed, so, among other things, we left behind the boxes of bird-skins that we had collected in the Cauca and Patia valleys. These were to follow us later, but they appear not to have been sent off for two or three months, and by that time a revolution had begun in Ecuador, so that the mules were seized by the revolutionists when they crossed the frontier, and, so far as we could ascertain, our boxes were rifled and left on the roadside. At any rate we never recovered them, and the work of several months was lost, with the exception of a few skins we had carried with us.

We made Quito our headquarters for several months, and thoroughly explored all the country round, besides taking trips down to the low forest-land on the Pacific side, as well as to the Valle de Viciosa, in the eastern mountains at the back of Cotopaxi. This little-known valley, or plateau, stands at

an elevation of about 14,500 feet, and is bounded by Antisana, Cotopaxi, Quilindaña, and other snow-covered peaks, while from the far end of it a view can be gained of the lower forest-covered mountains stretching away down to the rivers forming the head-waters of the Amazon. With the exception of two shepherds' huts, which are far apart, this valley is uninhabited, and most of the country for miles around is devastated by eruptions from Cotopaxi. The climate is very cold, and snow fell on several nights during our stay there in December.

We found Pichincha wonderful collecting-ground, and as it rises above the city of Quito, it is very accessible. At the summit of the crater it is 16,000 feet high, and so just reaches the snow-line, but for 2000 feet above Quito its slopes and valleys are covered with flowering bushes and stunted trees, which teem with birds, Humming-birds predominating. Still higher up grows the wiry "páramo-grass," also the haunt of many varieties, notably *Attagis chimborazensis*, *Gallinago jamesoni*, and *Nothoprocta curvirostris*, while on the cliffs and rocks around the crater the Condors make their home.

Between the Western Andes and the Pacific coast the whole country is covered with virgin forests, which reach up the mountains to an altitude of 12,000 feet. These are most sparsely inhabited by whites, who are everywhere miserably poor and verging on starvation, a result due to their lack of energy. On a few execrable trails, often impassable, leading down from the mountains, an occasional hut may be met with, but many names printed in large type on Wolf's map do not exist at all, or represent a solitary hut, or the spot where a hut once stood. Our best collecting-ground on this side was at Santo Domingo, in the country of the Colorado Indians, the finest natives we met with, who paint the whole of their bodies a uniform red, with a basket-work pattern of blue over it. This place contains but three huts, for the Indians live far away in the depths of the forests around. Some of the intermediate resting-places at higher altitudes also yielded a great number of birds, but, almost without

exception, all places below a certain level are extremely unhealthy, while travelling is most difficult, and all food-supplies must be taken from headquarters.

During the latter part of our stay in Quito we were involved in a revolution, and for a time the city was besieged. A great portion of the population took refuge in the various Legations and Consulates; several hundred, including some Cabinet Ministers, came to the British Consulate, where we also stayed when in Quito. All this greatly retarded our arrangements for going to the Napo, which was the most formidable part of our travels in South America and the climax of our experiences. We had never imagined anything so bad as the route. Track there was none, and on the eastern mountains some of the climbs were so steep and so dangerous that it seemed as if mules could never pass. Other spots were all morass, and at times we seemed likely to sink in altogether, and spent hours in extricating ourselves and our animals. The route to be followed from Quito first takes a dip down into the wide and somewhat dry Chillo Valley, which connects the Western and Eastern ranges of the Andes, and forms the northern end of the central highlands of Ecuador. Here it is that among the Humming-birds may be found some intermediate forms between the Western and Eastern varieties. A good example is the well-known *Petasophora iolata*. We found this bird green on the western range and quite bronzy on the eastern range, whereas all the specimens procured from the connecting Chillo Valley were intermediate in colouring.

When the Eastern Andes were reached, the path rose suddenly and steeply to the dreaded Guamani Pass at 16,000 feet. It can only be crossed at certain seasons of the year, when the snows have somewhat melted. Even at this altitude we found bird-life not altogether wanting, for we shot specimens of *Myiotheretes erythropygius* and *Muscisaxicola alpina* almost at the summit of the pass. No human habitation is met with for nearly two days, until the small Indian village of Papallacta is reached on the eastern side at 11,500 feet, standing in a romantic and verdant bend

of a spur of Antisana. It is a cold place, but we passed the month of February 1899 there, and found birds most abundant. From here we had to travel on foot down to the headwaters of the Napo, a journey of nearly three weeks. The only habitations met with during that time were at Baeza, three days' walk below Papallacta, where there were four huts. Here, again, we stayed a month, and obtained many rare birds. When at last we reached the Napo many fresh difficulties arose, for we were cast alone among various Indian tribes, some being anything but friendly, and one and all most unwilling to assist us with canoes in which to proceed down the river. Consequently we had to remain in some places, racked with ague and fever, for several months. Even when we were able to get canoes the Indians would not take us beyond their own territories, the various tribes being unfriendly to one another. These enforced stoppages were all the more aggravating, as birds were by no means numerous on the main river; but we found them plentiful in some places on the narrower tributaries, such as the Jusepino, the Suno, and the Suyuno. The whole journey down the Napo to Iquitos on the Marañon would occupy about four weeks in canoes, if made direct and with the river "in flood." After passing the Rio Tiputini we proceeded straight to that town, which we found to be a fairly flourishing little place and an important rubber-centre, as it is at the head of navigation on the Upper Amazon for the larger steamers. At Iquitos our journey may be said to have ended, since from there we were able, after some further adventures, occasioned by the place being in the throes of a "revolution," to hire a small launch to the Rio Javarri, and thence to take a river-steamer right down to Pará, whence we shipped direct to England.

During this journey Mr. Hamilton and I collected altogether about 4000 skins of birds, belonging, as will be seen by our list, to about 550 species. This great number was entirely due to Mr. Hamilton's unbounded energy and love of shooting, while he at all times kept me fully occupied from morning till evening with skinning, and sometimes far into the night as well. It will be recollected that we lost the first portion of

our collection, made between Cali and Pasto, and never recovered it. With the exception of some 70, all the skins were made by myself, and most of the specimens were shot by Mr. Hamilton. In some localities we were able to get the Indians to bring in a few birds, but we could not depend upon their doing so with any regularity, or bringing them to us while they were still in a fit condition to skin. At one or two places we also hired a man for a short time to help with the shooting. This was chiefly around Quito, where we wanted certain birds from localities that we could not find time to visit ourselves.

Here I may as well give the months in which we collected at the various places in Ecuador :—

July and August 1898. Nanegal, Gualea, and Intag, West Ecuador.
September 1898. Milligalli, Canzacota, and San Nicolas, „
October „ Santo Domingo de los Colorados, „
November „ Chiefly spent on Pichincha and Mindo.
December „ Valle de Viciosa, environs of Quito and Pichincha.
January 1899. Chillo Valley and neighbourhood of Quito.
February „ Papallacta, East Ecuador.
March „ Baeza, „
April „ Indian village of Archidona, at foot of the Eastern [Andes.
May (first half) 1899. Suno, Upper Rio Napo.
May, June, and July 1899. Rio Coca, Upper Rio Napo.
August (first fortnight) 1899. Rio Tiputini, Rio Napo.

In the following list I have used the arrangement and nomenclature of Sclater and Salvin's 'Nomenclator Avium Neotropicalium,' except where otherwise stated.

1. Catharus fuscater (Lafr.).

One ♂ from above Mindo, altitude 8800 feet, on the Western slope of Pichincha. Its stomach contained berries. The bill is orange, with a black line down the centre; legs, feet, and rim of eyelids also orange. Although we were a long time in this locality we never saw but the one specimen.

2. Turdus leucops Tacz.

Merula leucops Seebohm, Mon. Turd. p. 47, pl. lxxxviii.

A pair from Gualea, Western Ecuador. The male was shot on the top of a bush, and the female an hour later in

the same place. I then discovered a nest in the bush which I supposed to belong to them. It was barely three feet from the ground, and not a very neat structure, being composed of dry leaves and moss. It contained three blue eggs; one was quite plain, but the other two were speckled with reddish brown. Bill and legs yellow, iris light grey.

3. Turdus gigas Fraser.

These birds are very common throughout the highlands of both Eastern and Western Ecuador at altitudes of from 8500 to 11,500 feet. We first saw them in Southern Colombia, but nowhere were they so numerous as in Ecuador, where they may be seen on the tops of bushes and low trees uttering their loud liquid notes, though the song is not long sustained. They were in such numbers at Papallacta, East Ecuador, in February, as to constitute a nuisance. We found their nests on the western side of Corazón in September at 9000 feet, also on Pichincha in November at over 10,000 feet. Bill, legs, and feet chrome-yellow, but blackish in the female. Local name "Merla."

4. Turdus maranonicus Taez.

Turdus maranonicus Taez. Orn. d. Pérou, i. p. 488.

3 ♂s, 2 ♀s. Shot at the Indian village of Archidona and near the mouth of the Coca, on the Upper Napo, East Ecuador, in April and May. They frequented the clearings around the Indian huts, but I never saw them in the forests. Seebohm (Cat. B. Br. Mus. v. p. 188) states that it is not known that there is any difference of plumage in the sexes, but according to our skins the males are decidedly whiter on the breasts than the females, and also have the throat of a deeper cinnamon colour.

5. Turdus ignobilis Sel.

Turdus ignobilis Seebohm, Mon. Turd. p. 241.

We first came across these birds around Popayán, South Colombia, alt. 5600 feet, where they were somewhat numerous along the hedgerows; but we did not meet with them again until we descended to the Upper Napo, in Eastern Ecuador. They were plentiful at Archidona, and also at the mouth

of the Coca, and kept strictly to the clearings, where they sat about on the topmost twigs of the low bushes well out in the open. They have a remarkably sweet song, and their beautiful notes were among the first sounds to wake us in the early mornings on the Napo. They must have been nesting in April and May, as the Indians brought in several nestlings. We never saw or shot a specimen lower down the Napo than where the Coca joins it. There appears to be a little difference between the Popayán and Napo skins; the latter are a trifle darker on the upper side, and whiter on the vent.

6. Cinclus leuconotus Scl.

2 ♂s, 1 ♀ from Papallacta, East Ecuador, 11,500 feet. These birds frequent the rocks in the river-beds, and our specimens were procured near the source of a hot spring flowing from the side of the mountain. The crown and nape of the female are much mottled with black and light grey. Iris brownish red in the ♂ and grey in the ♀.

7. Myiadestes ralloides (Lafr. & D'Orb.).

Milligalli, Gualea, and near Mindo, Western Ecuador, at altitudes of from 4000 to 6600 feet. Frequents the tops of rather high trees.

8. Myiadestes coracinus (Berlp.). (Plate VIII.)*

♂. This rare species we shot in the dense forests below Baeza, at an altitude of probably 4000 feet, on our journey down to the Napo. It was one of the exceedingly few birds we met with in these gloomy forests, and in this case a pair of them were together in the top of a high tree. Our attention was attracted by their metallic-sounding call-note, uttered

* [This remarkable species was first described by Graf v. Berlepsch in 1897 (Orn. Monatsb. 1897, p. 175), from a single specimen in his collection, which had been obtained by Herr Gustav Hopke near St. Pablo, in S.W. Colombia. It is a close ally of *M. leucotis* (Tsch.) of Peru. There is a single example of it in the Tring Museum which, by the kindness of Mr. Rothschild, I have been able to compare with Mr. Goodfellow's skin. It was obtained along with other birds from some part of Northern Colombia, probably from Antioquia, but the exact locality is not known.—P. L. S.]

at intervals. This is the first specimen recorded from the Eastern Andes.

9. Polioptila bilineata (Bp.).

♂. Near Santo Domingo, W. Ecuador, 1000 feet. Shot in a low bush near a stream.

10. Campylorhynchus brevirostris Lafr. (Sharpe, B. M. C. B. vi. p. 198.)

A good series of these birds from Santo Domingo, W. Ecuador, altitude about 600 feet, where they were very numerous at times in the low bushes around the huts. The iris is bright red. The black spots on the under tail-coverts seem to be partially or totally wanting in the females; they also have a wash of brown on the nape, and the feathers on the crown are edged with a lighter grey than in the males.

11. Cinnicerthia unibrunnea (Lafr.).

Common at many localities on the Western Andes at altitudes of from 10,000 to 12,000 feet, and also at Papallaeta on the Eastern range. One ♂ from the latter locality has some cream-coloured feathers above the nostrils, and although we obtained a large series of both sexes, it is the only one so marked. Four or five individuals were generally seen together.

12. Cinnicerthia olivascens Sharpe.

Cinnicerthia olivascens Sharpe, B. M. C. B. vi. p. 184.

2 ♂s, 1 ♀. We met with this bird on the western side of Pichincha only from 8000 to 9000 feet. It was not nearly so numerous as the preceding species, and was seen singly or in pairs. I see in my note-book I have recorded that the call-note is different from that of *C. unibrunnea*, but I do not remember now in what way.

13. Henicorhina leucophrys (Tsch.).

We obtained a series from both the Eastern and Western Andes at elevations of from 9000 to 11,500 feet, where the birds hop about on the ground under the low bushes, and as they are very active they are somewhat difficult to shoot. Iris reddish brown.

14. Thryophilus nigricapillus (Scl.).

We shot a pair of these birds at San Nicolas, and another pair at Intag, both on the west side, and in each case only the females were barred across the upper breast, the markings being rather brown. (See B. M. C. B. vi. p. 216.)

15. Thryothorus griseipectus (Sharpe).

Thryothorus griseipectus Sharpe, B. M. C. B. vi. p. 236.

♀. Archidona, near the foot of the Eastern Andes.

16. Thryothorus euophrys Scl.

From about 12,000 feet on Pichincha, Western Andes.

17. Thryothorus goodfellowi Scl.

Thryothorus goodfellowi Scl. Bull. B. O. C. xi. p. 47.

One male and one female from Papallacta, 11,000 feet, Eastern Andes, in February.

A close ally of *T. euophrys*, but at once recognisable by its white throat.

18. Troglodytes solstitialis Scl.

♂. Baeza, Eastern Ecuador, 5000 feet. I caught this specimen in the thatch of an Indian hut, where it was looking for insects.

19. Troglodytes ochraceus Ridgw.

Troglodytes ochraceus Ridgw. Proc. U. S. N. M. iv. p. 334 (1881).

Two males from about 7000 feet on the western side of Pichincha in December. These were the only specimens seen, and were killed at one shot.

20. Cistothorus brunneiceps Salv.

Cistothorus brunneiceps Salvin, Ibis, 1881, p. 129, pl. iii. fig. 1.

♂. Above Milligalli, W. Ecuador, 6500 feet.

21. Anthus bogotensis Scl.

♀. Valle de Viciosa, 14,000 feet. I caught this bird in my hand in a clump of the wiry "páramo" grass in the early morning, when all the ground was white with frost. In the same locality my horse also trod on another which was hiding in the grass, and crushed it quite flat. Iris red.

22. Parula pitiayumi (Vieill.).

Bacza, on the eastern side of the Eastern Andes, 5000 feet. This was the only place where we met with it.

23. Parula inornata Baird.

A large series from San Nicolas, Guanacillo, and Rio Blanco, W. Ecuador. The birds were very plentiful in July at Intag, and numbers of them together were constantly hopping about the bushes close to the huts. They are very quick little creatures, and always on the move.

24. Dendrœca blackburniæ (Gm.).

These birds were as thick as autumn leaves at Papallacta, E. Ecuador, 11,500 feet, in February, but very few of them were in mature plumage.

25. Dendrœca striata (Forst.).

♂. Archidona, at the headwaters of the Napo. Shot in the clearing near the huts.

26. Dendrœca æstiva (Gm.).

3 ♂s, 1 ♀. Archidona. All were shot in the high gables of the Indian huts, where they were constantly hunting for insects.

27. Geothlypis semiflava (Scl.).

A pair from San Nicolas, W. Ecuador, in September.

28. Geothlypis philadelphia (Wils.).

♂. Papallacta, in February.

29. Myiodioctes canadensis (L.).

3 ♂s, 2 ♀s. Archidona, April 1899.

30. Basileuterus coronatus (Tsch.).

6 ♂s, 2 ♀s. Milligalli and Canzacota, 6000 to 6500 feet. Some of the males have the inner webs of the wing-feathers edged with creamy white on the underside, while others have it distinctly cinnamon. One male from Canzacota has white nasal coverts, and a few very yellow feathers on the forehead.

31. Basileuterus semicervinus Scl.

One male and one female from Nanegal, W. Ecuador. Both were shot quite in the forest.

32. Basileuterus nigrivertex Salvin, Nov. Zool. ii. p. 3.

Six males and three females from Intag, Gualea, and Milligalli, W. Ecuador. Shot in July, August, and September. The wings vary in length in the males. The females have a brownish-yellow line over the eyes, while the crown is brownish black, and does not extend so far back as in the males.

33. Basileuterus castaneiceps Sel. et Salv. (Sharpe, B. M. C. B. x. p. 389.)

♂. Baeza, E. Ecuador. This single specimen was brought down at the same shot as an example of *Calliste cyaneicollis*.

34. Basileuterus auricularis Sharpe, B. M. C. B. x. p. 386.

2 ♂s, 1 ♀. Gualea and Canzacota, about 6000 feet. The female appears to have a considerably longer bill than the male.

35. Setophaga ruticilla (L.).

We shot two specimens of this bird in the yard at the back of the inn in which we stopped in Ibarra, 6600 feet, on our way down to Quito in June, others at Mindo, W. Ecuador, in November, and more at Papallacta, 11,500 feet, E. Ecuador, in February.

36. Setophaga bairdi (Salv.); Sharpe, B. M. C. B. x. p. 423.

These birds were very plentiful on the western side of Corazón above Milligalli in September at 8000 feet. I constantly noticed them hanging head downwards from a twig to reach at insects below them. We also shot specimens on the western side of Pichincha up to 12,000 feet, but never once saw one on any other side of that mountain. They were also abundant at Papallacta, E. Ecuador, in February.

37. Setophaga verticalis (Lafr. & D'Orb.).

West side of Pichincha and Papallacta. There seems, however, to be a slight difference in the eastern and western forms. According to our skins, the western birds have the forehead slate-colour, with a black centre to each feather,

and the crown of the female is *less* rufous than that of the male, while her throat is slate-colour. But in the eastern skins both the male and female have the forehead black and no difference in the colour of the crown; both have black throats of a deeper hue than the western male.

38. Vireosylvia josephiæ Scl.

3 ♂ s. Mindo and Canzacota, West Ecuador, 6500 feet. Found singly.

39. Vireo chivi (Vieill.).

2 ♂ s, 3 ♀ s. San Nicolas, West Ecuador, in September. With the exception of the female having a shorter wing, the sexes do not differ.

40. Cyclorhis nigrirostris Lafr.

We collected specimens at Milligalli and Gualea, West Ecuador, and also at Baeza, East Ecuador, which appear to be exactly alike.

41. Atticora cyanoleuca (Vieill.).

We met with this Swallow in many places at altitudes of from 600 feet to 10,000 feet.

42. Atticora cinerea (Gm.).

One male shot on the dead branch of a tree at Nanegal.

43. Atticora tibialis (Cass.).

Santo Domingo, W. Ecuador, where it was generally seen sitting on the trees or flying around the clearing close to the edge of the forest.

44. Stelgidopteryx ruficollis (Vieill.).

Archidona, at the foot of the Eastern Andes, was the only place where we met with these Swallows. They often flew into the huts in numbers to sleep during the hot hours of the day.

45. Diglossa sittoides (Lafr. & D'Orb.).

Papallacta and Pichincha, E. and W. Ecuador, 11,500 feet.

46. Diglossa albilateralis Lafr.

Papallacta and Pichincha. Often seen in company with *D. sittoides*. The bill is wholly black in the males, but in

the females the base of the mandible is yellowish horn-colour. Iris black in the male, and brown in the female.

47. Diglossa aterrima Lafr.

This species we found very plentiful in the neighbourhood of Quito, and we shot many of them with a blowpipe in the gardens of the British Consulate. They are restless birds, and search every leaf and plant for insects in a most thorough and systematic manner. They frequently flew in at our open windows and doors to hunt about the room for spiders. A pair of them bred in the "patio" of the Consulate in November. Three different sites were chosen, and every time the nest was pulled to pieces by the Humming-birds (*Petasophora iolata*) which had built in the same "patio." At length they were allowed to complete a nest among the sword-like leaves of a species of aloe. It was built of roots and moss, and was ingeniously suspended from the sharp thorns on the edges of the leaves, about two feet and a half from the ground. Two blue eggs, speckled with red, were laid, but the nest was destroyed by the gardener before the young were hatched. During our stay in Quito, we shot an almost pure albino of this bird on Pichincha. The young are very rusty-looking and speckled, and have the outer margin of the wing-feathers brown.

48. Diglossa lafresnayi (Boiss.).

We shot a good series at Nanegal in July, and also found them rather plentiful around Quito (though not in the city) and along the Western Andes up to 10,000 feet. Our females appear to have the basal half of the mandible yellowish. They seem to be pugnacious birds, and on several occasions I saw them fighting with other species along the hedges near Quito.

49. Diglossa personata (Fraser).

Plentiful at Nanegal and Intag in July, and along the Western Andes up to 10,000 feet. Unlike other members of this genus which we came across, these birds were in small flocks of seven or eight. The iris is reddish, and in some specimens inclines to bright red.

50. Diglossa indigotica Scl.

This species ranges to a lower altitude than the preceding five, and we only met with it below Canzacota at about 5000 feet. We obtained two males and one female. The latter is not nearly so bright a blue as the former. It is evidently not a common bird in Ecuador.

51. Conirostrum sitticolor Lafr.

Rather plentiful at Papallacta in February, and also on Pichincha up to 11,000 feet in November, December, and January.

52. Conirostrum fraseri Scl.

Also numerous on both the Eastern and Western Andes, and frequently met with in the gardens of Quito. A pair built a nest at the British Consulate in December. It was about eight feet from the ground, in a very open shrub, but carefully concealed by the large growing leaves. It was mostly composed of dry grass and moss and lined with hair, and contained only two eggs—very round, and spotted with red.

I find no difference in the appearance of the sexes.

53. Dacnis cœrebicolor Scl.

♂. Santo Domingo, about 600 feet, in October. The species was evidently not common there, as this was the only specimen we saw. I caught it in a butterfly-net under the eaves of a hut while it was hunting for spiders in the thatch. The legs and feet are dark red. Iris also dull red.

54. Dacnis egregia Scl.

A large series shot at Nanegal, Gualea, and Intag in July and August. At Nanegal flocks arrived suddenly, and a few days later not an individual was to be seen. Young males in the female garb predominated. One day I counted sixteen in one very small tree. They are active birds, never still for an instant, and search every branch and leaf for insects.

55. Dacnis pulcherrima Scl.

2 ♂s, 1 ♀. Santo Domingo and Guanacillo in October.

The males seem to be distinguishable by a large white spot on the inner web of the outer rectrices. This species seems solitary in its habits. We found it in the orange-trees, where it was very difficult to shoot, as it kept in the thickest parts.

56. Chlorophanes atricapilla (Vieill.).

This seems to belong to a West-Ecuadorian subspecies of *C. atricapilla*, of which we shot a great number at Santo Domingo and Guanacillo. The latter is the name of a negro "rubber-hunter's" hut in a very small clearing in the forest, a day's walk from the former place. These birds mostly frequent the banana plantations, and by tying a bunch of the ripe fruit to one of the trees we managed to get a great number of them. The females have the chin very yellow, and are more yellowish green generally than the young males.

57. Cœreba cærulea L.

♀. Archidona, E. Ecuador, in April. Shot on an orange-tree close to the hut.

58. Certhiola mexicana (Scl.).

7 ♂s, 3 ♀s. Intag and Milligalli, W. Ecuador, and Baeza, E. Ecuador, with no variation. I found a nest at Intag in July, in a bush about four feet from the ground. It was dome-shaped, and contained two eggs—white, speckled with red. These little birds cling to the flowers on the tall trees, and extract the insects from them.

[To be continued.]

XXV.—*Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.*

[Continued from p. 151.]

36. *Allen on the Birds of Santa Marta.*

[List of Birds Collected in the District of Santa Marta, Colombia, by Mr. Herbert H. Smith. By J. A. Allen. Bull. American Mus. Nat. Hist. xiii. p. 117, 1900.]

The well-known collector Mr. Herbert H. Smith obtained 2814 bird-skins in the neighbourhood of Santa Marta,